

HONORING THE HISPANIC AMERICAN EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE INC. AND THE FATHER GARY GRAF CENTER FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING COMMITMENT TO ASSISTING THE ACHIEVEMENT OF CITIZENSHIP

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2014

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to honor two community organizations in the northern Illinois district I represent. Both groups assist with one of the most basic and most important functions of our democracy—the naturalization and integration of new citizens.

The Hispanic American Education and Community Service Inc. (HACES) and the Father Gary Graf Center—both based in Waukegan—offer educational and support services to help new citizens, recent immigrants and their families fully integrate in their communities, become naturalized citizens and engage with our democracy.

These extraordinary organizations and the dedicated people who make them special provide some of the most valuable and helpful services to immigrant families.

HACES and the Fr. Gary Graf Center work together to deliver a broad spectrum of vital services to immigrant families and to ensure that our communities are engaged, thriving and inclusive.

Witnessing a group of immigrants take the oath as citizens for the United States is an experience unlike any other. The first time I witnessed such a ceremony, I was deeply moved and inspired. In that unique moment, it is important to remember all of the work and all of the support that makes that possible.

Today, I rise to recognize two great organizations that help enable the dreams of millions around the world.

RECOGNIZING MAESTRO PHILLIP GABRIEL GARCIA

HON. BETO O'ROURKE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2014

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Maestro Phillip Gabriel Garcia, founder of the El Paso Youth Symphony Orchestra (EPYSO).

As the conductor and head of operations for this organization, Maestro Garcia provides a valuable service to the children of El Paso and its citizens. Through the development of "The Band Against Bullying Tour", the EPYSO built a bridge between music and social justice awareness. EPYSO helped raise consciousness of the negative effects that bullying has on the victims and the community's quality of life with their performances throughout El Paso. By using music as a means to educate the community, Maestro Garcia demonstrates his creative and passionate work ethic to improve his community.

With over 200 concerts performed, EPYSO gives kids the opportunity to see how music can positively reinforce their self-esteem

through personal achievements as musicians and performances to their community. While performing at the Child Crisis Center, the Battered Women Shelter, Ft. Bliss, and La Fe Community Health Center, kids experience the joy that their music brings to the public. More so, EPYSO champions community service, raising money to feed the homeless at the Feeding the Nations Homeless benefit concert and serving food to the homeless for Thanksgiving. EPYSO continues to impact its participants and the rest of the public by remaining viable and relevant to their community.

EPYSO and Maestro Phillip Garcia will continue to profoundly impact the El Paso community by continuing to connect their artistic endeavors with service. I am proud that this organization and Maestro Garcia are using music to contribute to the El Paso community, and I hope their message continues inspire our young citizens' enthusiasm for serving their community.

HONORING HITZEMAN FUNERAL HOME'S 110TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2014

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 110th Anniversary of the Hitzeman Funeral Home, which will be celebrated on June 21, 2014. The Hitzeman Funeral Home was created to serve the residents of Chicago and Western suburbs during difficult times. Todd Hitzeman, a fourth-generation funeral director, now owns the business and continues the practice of his ancestors to meet patrons' needs.

Founded in 1904, the Hitzeman Funeral Home's mission is to serve patrons with compassion and respect. Fifth generation businesses are a rarity today, but the longevity and success of this institution prove that the care the Hitzemans provide is well-appreciated.

One of the major accomplishments of Hitzeman Funeral Home was being recognized by the Illinois State Historical Society as an Illinois Centennial Business. The Hitzeman Funeral Home was also featured in Crain's Chicago Business family business focus for their 100th anniversary. After the centennial, Hitzeman Funeral Home continued to progress by renovating the existing building and expanding with a new wing and additional parking.

Members of the Hitzeman family also serve as active contributors to the community of Brookfield with involvement in churches, schools, and numerous charities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the great service that the Hitzeman Funeral Home has provided for 110 years. May their selfless dedication to their community serve as example to us all.

HONORING LIGHTHOUSE FIELD

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2014

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lighthouse Field now cele-

brating 100 years of service to the community, set in motion when the Pennsylvania Railroad Company deeded over 15 acres of land to the Lighthouse on June 13, 1914.

The history of Lighthouse Field dates back to June 13, 1910, when Charles Hamilton completed the first round trip airplane flight between two major cities, landing at Lighthouse Field and signaling the beginning of the commercial viability of airplane travel. At one time Lighthouse Field hosted the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus. In 1938, half of the United States Olympic Soccer Team was from Philadelphia with most of those players learning the sport at Lighthouse Field. By 1940 the Lighthouse Boys Club soccer program was the largest single soccer organization in the world and the most famous goal in American soccer history was scored by Walter Bahr, a product of the Lighthouse Boys Club, while playing on the 1950 World Cup team. In 1952, in anticipation of the Manchester United Soccer Club playing an exhibition game at Lighthouse Field, which over 3,000 people attended, Manchester United paid for the installation of concrete bleachers that are still used at Lighthouse Field. Also in the 1940's the Philadelphia Phillies occasionally practiced at Lighthouse Field. In 1984 the Army National Guard began using Lighthouse Field to host training exercises. In 2012 the Lighthouse partnered with Teens 4 Good to open an Urban Farm Program at Lighthouse Field. The Boy Scouts of America have also used Lighthouse Field to host a weekend camping exhibition for 500 scouts complete with camp fires and bow and arrow exhibitions.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Lighthouse Field for a century of serving as a safe haven for our city's children and for standing as a beacon of excellence and innovation for the evolving needs of our community.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DAN R. TANNER

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2014

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month, to recognize Dan R. Tanner.

From a very young age Dan knew that he was different, years later coming to the realization that he was gay—a significant challenge for him, as he lived in a very conservative part of the United States. Dan was influenced by his experiences as a child to become a teacher, a position where he had a platform to be a positive role model for his students by impacting their educational success and sense of self-worth. But he later left teaching because of the fear of losing his job if the school district administration, parents, or community found out he was gay. The ability to teach children and spark their academic interest is something that Dan misses to this day.

As Dan became more comfortable in his own skin and less fearful of the fallout from bridging his personal and professional lives, he realized he wanted to be involved in his